

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 05986 081233Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 MCT-01

SY-05 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 USSS-00 IO-13 /098 W

----- 023661

R 081211Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9459

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 5986

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, EAIR, SY

SUBJECT: SYRIAN REACTION TO KLM HIJACKING

1. DUTCH AMBASSADOR TOLD CHARGE SEPT 8 THAT AT ONE POINT DURING RECENT KLM HIJACKING WHEN IT APPEARED THAT AIRCRAFT MIGHT BE HEADED TOWARD DAMASCUS, HE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO REQUEST SYRIAN PERMISSION FOR PLANE TO LAND AT DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. SARG, THROUGH DEPUTY FONMIN SHAQRA, FIRMLY REFUSED TO GRANT SUCH PERMISSION. AMBASSADOR SAID HE NEVERTHELESS HAD IMPRESSION THAT IF PLANE WERE OUT OF FUEL OR IN SIMILAR EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES, SYRIANS WOULD HAVE PERMITTED IT TO LAND.

2. ON SAME SUBJECT, DEPUTY FONMIN RAFI TOLD CHARGE SEPT 7 THAT SYRIA WOULD NOT HAVE PERMITTED PLANE TO LAND UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. RAFI SAID THAT ON ONE OCCASION IN PAST SYRIA HAD ALLOWED A HIJACKED AIRCRAFT TO LAND AT DAMASCUS WITH "BAD RESULTS." IT WAS NOW FIRM SARG POLICY NOT TO PERMIT HIJACKED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DAMASC 05986 081233Z

AIRCRAFT TO LAND IN SYRIA.

PELLETREAU

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT HIJACKING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976DAMASC05986  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760339-0315  
**From:** DAMASCUS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760983/aaaacsbt.tel  
**Line Count:** 62  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <05 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SYRIAN REACTION TO KLM HIJACKING  
**TAGS:** PINS, EAIR, SY, KLM  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006